

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 14 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 15 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 13 Dec 2023 at 12:08 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for clearing to showers early Thursday, also for patchy rain from mid-Friday turning heavier for the weekend, but lowering for the detail of worst of conditions from weekend.

Headline for Thursday 14 Dec 2023: By day scattered showers and brighter spells with severe wind chill at height in strong to gale summit winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Gales

Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility

Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Heavy snow	Sleet	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers	Light snow showers	Light snow showers	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
90%	80%	40%	40%	30%	30%	30%	30%

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Weather: Periods of snow and rain at first overnight, heaviest in the west, clearing to showers before dawn. Brighter spells and showers through the day, with outbreaks mainly affecting western ranges. Snow level around 800-900m

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: By day 70% in west, 85% in east

Low Cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain or showers, very poor in snow and within cloud with bases lowering 500m at times, chiefly in the west as showers push through.

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	42/53 S	41/51 SW	29/37 SW	31/40 SW	35/45 SW	35/47 SW	33/45 SW	32/43 SW	30/41 SW
900	28/39 S	26/37 SW	20/28 W	21/30 W	24/35 W	26/37 W	24/35 W	24/34 SW	23/34 SW
600	39/50 S	36/46 S	21/28 SW	22/30 SW	26/37 SW	28/39 SW	25/36 SW	24/35 SW	24/34 SW
300	21/32 S	18/30 SW	11/18 SW	11/20 SW	15/25 SW	15/26 SW	13/24 SW	13/23 SW	12/23 SW
Glen	16/32 S	15/30 SW	9/21 W	9/22 W	12/27 SW	12/27 SW	11/24 SW	11/24 SW	11/24 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-3/-13	-0/-9	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-1/-9
900	-1/-9	1/-6	1/-5	1/-6	1/-6	1/-6	1/-6	1/-6	1/-5
600	2/-6	4/-2	3/-2	3/-2	4/-2	4/-2	3/-3	3/-2	3/-2
300	4/-2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	6/2
Glen	6/1	8/4	7/5	7/4	8/5	8/5	7/4	7/4	8/4
Freezing Level*	800m	1400m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1100m	1100m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Worst of the weather during the early hours of the morning, but still difficult conditions at height in west as summit gales bring snow showers and severe windchill.

Forecast for Friday 15 Dec 2023

Weather: Mainly dry start with some limited brighter spells. Cloud thickening and lowering to bring periods of light rain from late morning, most persistent in the west and during the afternoon, before turning increasingly patchy later in the day.

Maximum wind: West to southwest winds increasing mean 35-40mph from mid-afternoon with gusts reaching 60mph across most exposed ridges and summits.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70% becoming 10% from mid-day

Low Cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain or showers, very poor within cloud with bases occasionally lowering 500m at first, becoming widespread from mid-day.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 Celsius increasing 8 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 3 Celsius increasing 6 Celsius by mid-afternoon
Freezing level: 1200m lifting 1800m